Autism Speaks is enhancing lives today and accelerating a spectrum of solutions for tomorrow.
OUR MISSION

Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, 
across the spectrum and throughout the life span, 
for the needs of individuals with autism and their families. 
We do this through advocacy and support; increasing 
understanding and acceptance of autism spectrum disorder; and 
advancing research into causes and better interventions 
for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.
MISSION OBJECTIVES

- Increase understanding and acceptance
- Be a catalyst for life-enhancing research breakthroughs
- Increase timely screening and decrease time between diagnosis and intervention
- Improve transition to adulthood
- Improve access to reliable information and referrals
Be a catalyst for life enhancing research breakthroughs by:

- Increasing funding for autism research;
- Ensuring that the Precision Medicine Initiative focuses on autism; and
- Urging the FDA to develop patient-focused treatments for autism.

Increase timely developmental screening and decrease time from diagnosis to intervention by:

- Ensuring that individuals with autism have access to the healthcare they need irrespective of payer (Medicaid, etc.);
- Maintaining coverage for autism treatments and addressing gaps in coverage.

2017 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

AUTISM SPEAKS®
2017 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES CONT’D

Improve outcomes for individuals across the spectrum by:

- Increasing access to HCBS and ensure that individuals with autism have individualized, meaningful community supports, including those that incentivize work;
- Making ABLE accounts widely available;
- Making Career and Technology Education more accessible and improve coordination across education, vocational rehabilitation, CTE and other programs so that individuals have meaningful services, training and supports to help them achieve positive outcomes in adulthood;
- Increasing the availability and accessibility of high-quality, post-secondary education options; and
- Creating support for safety resources.